



1 New independent Claim 50 includes the general recitation of independent Claim 1, plus the  
2 patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 32 (i.e., specific means for regenerating the regenerable solid  
3 collection surface).

4 New independent Claim 51 includes the general recitation of independent Claim 21 plus the  
5 patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 23 (i.e., the biological signature comprises an  
6 autofluorescence).

7 New independent Claim 52 includes the general recitation of independent Claim 1, plus the  
8 patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 35 (i.e., a processor configured to implement specific  
9 functions).

10 New independent Claim 53 includes the general recitation of independent Claim 1, plus the  
11 patentable subject matter of dependent Claim 36 (i.e., a processor configured to implement specific  
12 functions).

13 Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

14 Claims 1, 7, 21, 24, 33, and 47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated  
15 by U.S. Patent No. 5,859,375 (Danylewych-May).

16 As noted above, applicants have amended independent Claims 1, 21, and 47 by incorporating  
17 patentable subject matter identified by the Examiner into the pending claims. Accordingly, amended  
18 independent Claims 1, 21, and 47 distinguish over the cited art and should be allowed.

19 Claims 7 and 33 depend from Claim 1, while Claim 24 depends on Claim 21. Dependent claims  
20 inherently are patentable for at least the same reasons as the claims from which they depend, thus the  
21 rejection of dependent Claims 7, 24, and 33 should also be withdrawn.

22 Claims Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

23 Claim 48 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No.  
24 3,572,128 (Hemcon).

25 As noted above, applicants have amended independent Claim 48 by incorporating patentable  
26 subject matter identified by the Examiner. Accordingly, Claim 48 as amended distinguishes over the  
27 cited art and should be allowed.

28 In consideration of the amendment to the claims and the Remarks set forth above, it is applicants'  
29 position that all claims in the current application are patentable over the art of record. The Examiner is  
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1 thus requested to pass this case to issue without further delay. In the event that any other issues remain,  
2 the Examiner is invited to telephone applicants' attorney at the number listed below.

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4 Respectfully submitted,

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7 Michael C. King  
8 Registration No. 44,832  
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